

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 9, lines 9-26, please replace the paragraph with the following:

Plural (in the illustrated embodiment, three) pin insertion holes ~~[[30]]~~ 60 (only two of them are shown in FIG. 1) are formed in the mount table 48 to penetrate the same. A lifting pin 62 is loosely fitted into each of the pin insertion holes ~~[[30]]~~ 60 to move vertically therethrough. A lifting ring 64, made of a ceramic material such as alumina, is arranged at the lower end of the lifting pin 62. The lower end of each lifting pin 62 is not securely fixed to the lifting ring 64 but is supported by the lifting ring 64. An arm 66 extending from the lifting ring 64 is connected to a rod 68 penetrating the bottom wall 36 of the processing vessel. The rod 68 is capable of vertical movement by an actuator 70. Thus, each lifting pin 62 can project upward from the upper end of each pin insertion holes 60 when the wafer W is transferred between the mount table 48 and a wafer conveying arm (not shown). An expandable bellows 72 surrounding the rod 68 is held between the bottom wall 36 of the processing vessel and the actuator 70, so that the rod 68 can move vertically while maintaining air-tightness of the processing vessel 24.

On page 12, line 31 through page 13, line 25, please replace the paragraph with the following:

The lower two (82A, 82B) of the three diffusion chamber forming plates 82A, 82B and 82C have such an outer diameter that they (82A, 82B) are substantially in contact with the inner circumferential surface of the side wall 78B of the shower head main body 78 when they (82A, 82B) are housed in the shower head main body 78. The outer diameter of the uppermost diffusion chamber forming plate 82C is considerably smaller than those of the diffusion chamber forming plates 82A and 82B. The lowermost diffusion chamber forming plate 82A is fixed to the fixing flange 92 of the head mounting frame 76 together with the diffusion chamber forming plate 82B by screw bolts 106, each of which is inserted upwardly into a hole formed in the diffusion chamber forming plate 82A from below the same, passes through the middle diffusion chamber forming plate 82B, and is in thread engagement at the tip end portion thereof with the fixing flange 92. The diffusion chamber forming plate 82B is fixed to the fixing flange 92 of the head mounting frame 76 by screw bolts 108, each of which is inserted downwardly into a hole formed in the fixing flange 92 from above the same

and is in thread engagement at the tip end portion thereof with the middle diffusion chamber forming plate 82B. The uppermost diffusion chamber forming plate 82C is fixed to the diffusion chamber forming plate 82B by screw bolt 110, each of which is inserted downwardly into a hole formed at the diffusion chamber forming plate 82C from above the same, and is in thread engagement at the tip end portion thereof with the middle diffusion chamber forming plate 82B. As regards the bolts 106, the bolts 108 and the bolts 110, only one or two of them are shown in FIG. 2, however, in fact, plural bolts are arranged along the circumferential direction of the shower head main body 78.